

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-8 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 6 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 1 and 6.

Claim Amendments

Independent claims 1 and 6 have been amended by way of this reply to clarify the claimed invention. Specifically, claim 1 has been amended to correct minor errors and to require a control unit configured to control an expansion unit, in a case where a high speed reproduction key is operated, to reproduce compressed video and audio data for a number of frames corresponding to an n-fold speed, alternating with reproducing the compressed video and audio data in one of a normal speed and a two-fold speed for a predetermined number of frames. No new subject matter has been added by way of these amendments, as support for these amendments may be found, for example, in Figure 2 of the Publication of the Specification and in paragraphs [0028]-[0031] of the Publication of the Specification. Applicant believes the included amendments do not require a new search, or at least simplify issues for appeal, and accordingly, applicant respectfully requests entry and favorable consideration thereof.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,787,225 issued to Honjo (hereinafter "Honjo"). Independent claims 1 and 6 have

been amended in this reply to clarify the invention recited. To the extent that this rejection may still apply to the amended claims, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

The present invention is directed to a method and apparatus for high-speed reproduction of digital video information (*see* Specification, Abstract). In one or more embodiments of the invention, high-speed reproduction of digital video data is initiated by a high-speed reproduction key **20a**. High-speed reproduction may be any speed above normal speed reproduction, for example, four-fold eight-fold, ten-fold, sixteen-fold, etc. (*see, e.g.,* Publication of the Specification, paragraphs [0024]-[0025]).

When high-speed reproduction is initiated, video information is reproduced for a number of frames at the designated high-speed reproduction rate, followed by the reproduction of video information for a number of frames at a normal reproduction rate. This process continues until high-speed reproduction of the digital video data is interrupted (*see, e.g.,* Publication of the Specification, paragraphs [0028]-[0030]).

The Examiner asserts that features upon which Applicant relies (such as non-uniform n-fold speeds) are not recited in the rejected claims (*see* "Response to Arguments," Office Action dated December 28, 2005, at page 2). Applicant respectfully asserts that such features are recited in the claims. However, in view of the Examiner's Response to Arguments, Applicant has amended the claims to clarify the claimed invention.

Accordingly, amended independent claims 1 and 6 require reproducing compressed video and audio data for a number of frames corresponding to an n-fold speed (where $n \geq 3$), alternating with reproducing the compressed video and audio data in one of normal speed and two-fold speed for a predetermined number of frames.

Honjo, in contrast to the claimed invention, does not disclose reproducing compressed video and audio data for a number of frames corresponding to an n-fold speed

(where $n \geq 3$), alternating with reproducing the compressed video and audio data in one of normal speed and two-fold speed for a predetermined number of frames.

Rather, Honjo discloses operation of an optical disk player either at a normal-speed reproduction or at a high-speed reproduction (*see* Honjo, col. 3, line 64 – col. 4, line 2). For example, during normal reproduction, Honjo discloses reproducing video signals frame-by-frame (*see* Honjo, col. 4, lines 22-28). Similarly, during high-speed reproduction, Honjo discloses reproducing only certain video signals corresponding to I-pictures and P-pictures, which relate to types of image coding (*see* Honjo, col. 4, lines 28-34, col. 3, lines 21-36).

Even in an example 3-fold speed reproduction, Honjo merely discloses using only the aforementioned I-pictures and P-pictures for reproducing images (*see* Honjo, col. 5, lines 62-65). Honjo clearly does not disclose reproducing compressed video and audio data for a number of frames corresponding to an n -fold speed (where $n \geq 3$), alternating with reproducing the compressed video and audio data in one of normal speed and two-fold speed for a predetermined number of frames, as required by the claimed invention.

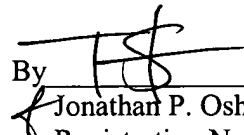
In view of the above, Honjo fails to show or suggest the invention as recited in amended independent claims 1 and 6. Thus, amended independent claims 1 and 6 are patentable over Honjo. Claims 2-5, 7, and 8, directly or indirectly dependent from claims 1 or 6, are allowable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 04995/121001).

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Respectfully submitted,

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